

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 64

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exemption to the individual mandate to maintain health coverage for individuals residing in counties with fewer than 2 health insurance issuers offering plans on an Exchange; to require Members of Congress and congressional staff to abide by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act with respect to health insurance coverage; and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2021

Mr. BIGGS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, House Administration, and Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exemption to the individual mandate to maintain health coverage for individuals residing in counties with fewer than 2 health insurance issuers offering plans on an Exchange; to require Members of Congress and congressional staff to abide by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act with respect to health insurance coverage; and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Protection from  
3 Obamacare Mandates and Congressional Equity Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. MODIFICATIONS TO EXEMPTION FROM REQUIRE-****5 MENT TO MAINTAIN HEALTH COVERAGE.**

6 (a) EXEMPTION FOR INDIVIDUALS IN AREAS WITH  
7 FEWER THAN 2 ISSUERS OFFERING PLANS ON AN EX-  
8 CHANGE.—Section 5000A(e) of the Internal Revenue Code  
9 of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following  
10 new paragraph:

11 “(6) INDIVIDUALS IN AREAS WITH FEWER  
12 THAN 2 ISSUERS OFFERING PLANS ON AN EX-  
13 CHANGE.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Any applicable indi-  
15 vidual for any period during a calendar year if  
16 there are fewer than 2 health insurance issuers  
17 offering qualified health plans on an Exchange  
18 for such period in the county in which the ap-  
19 plicable individual resides.

20 “(B) AGGREGATION RULES.—For purposes  
21 of subparagraph (A), all health insurance  
22 issuers treated as a single employer under sub-  
23 section (a) or (b) of section 52, or subsection  
24 (m) or (o) of section 414, shall be treated as a  
25 single health insurance issuer.”.

1       (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 this section shall apply to months beginning after the date  
3 of the enactment of this Act.

4 SEC. 3. HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN  
5 CONGRESSIONAL STAFF AND MEMBERS OF  
6 THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

7 Section 1312(d)(3)(D) of the Patient Protection and  
8 Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 18032(d)(3)(D)) is  
9 amended—

10 (1) by striking the subparagraph heading and  
11 inserting the following:

12                         “(D) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, CONGRES-  
13                         SIONAL STAFF, AND POLITICAL APPOINTEES IN  
14                         THE EXCHANGE.—”;

25 (3) in clause (ii)—

1                             (A) in subclause (II), by inserting after  
2                             “Congress,” the following: “of a committee of  
3                             Congress, or of a leadership office of Con-  
4                             gress;” and

5                             (B) by adding at the end the following:

6                                 “(III) POLITICAL APPOINTEE.—

7                             The term ‘political appointee’ means  
8                             any individual who—

9                                 “(aa) is employed in a posi-  
10                             tion described under sections  
11                             5312 through 5316 of title 5,  
12                             United States Code (relating to  
13                             the Executive Schedule);

14                                 “(bb) is a limited term ap-  
15                             pointee, limited emergency ap-  
16                             pointee, or noncareer appointee  
17                             in the Senior Executive Service,  
18                             as defined under paragraphs (5),  
19                             (6), and (7), respectively, of sec-  
20                             tion 3132(a) of title 5, United  
21                             States Code; or

22                                 “(cc) is employed in a posi-  
23                             tion in the executive branch of  
24                             the Government of a confidential  
25                             or policy-determining character

under schedule C of subpart C of part 213 of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations.”; and

4 (4) by adding at the end the following:

**“(iii) GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION.—**

6 No Government contribution under section  
7 8906 of title 5, United States Code, shall  
8 be provided on behalf of an individual who  
9 is a Member of Congress, a congressional  
10 staff member, the President, the Vice  
11 President, or a political appointee for cov-  
12 erage under this paragraph.

**“(iv) LIMITATION ON AMOUNT OF TAX**

CREDIT OR COST SHARING.—An individual enrolling in health insurance coverage pursuant to this paragraph shall not be eligible to receive a tax credit under section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or reduced cost sharing under section 1402 of this Act in an amount that exceeds the total amount for which a similarly situated individual (who is not so enrolled) would be entitled to receive under such sections.

1 ing any other provision of law, a Member  
2 of Congress shall not have discretion in de-  
3 terminations with respect to which employ-  
4 ees employed by the office of such Member  
5 are eligible to enroll for coverage through  
6 an Exchange.

7                             “(vi) CLARIFICATION.—The terms  
8                             ‘small employer’ (as defined under section  
9                             1304(b)(2)) and ‘qualified employers’ (as  
10                          defined under subsection (f)) do not in-  
11                          clude the Congress, with respect to enroll-  
12                          ments in an Exchange and a SHOP Ex-  
13                          change.”.

